

From: ["Washburn, Ben" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FDA03CBA30C542059E0AF4208DAD96DA-WASHBURN.BEN>](mailto:Washburn.Ben@EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FDA03CBA30C542059E0AF4208DAD96DA-WASHBURN.BEN)
To: ["R7 Daily Digest" <Group>](#)
CC:
Date: 10/9/2014 3:09:34 PM
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 10/9/14

OPA Daily Digest for 10/9/14

Congressional Inquiries:

None

State Government Inquiries:

Sen. Gary Romine (Mo.) – letter – 10/1/14: Questioning high levels of lead in soil in southeastern Missouri. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (open)

Press Inquiries:

West Plains Quill (Mo.) – Denise Vaughn – 10/1/14: Questions regarding Coastal Energy. Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (open)

Quad City Times (Iowa) – Mark Ridolfi – 10/7/14: Pitched op-ed about waters of the U.S. proposal and will place on 10/9/14. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

North Platte Telegraph (Neb.) – Peter Rogers – 10/8/14: Pitched regional administrator's op-ed about waters of the U.S. proposal. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

McCook Gazette (Neb.) – Bruce Crosby – 10/8/14: Pitched regional administrator's op-ed about waters of the U.S. proposal. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

Hastings Tribune (Neb.) – Andy Raun – 10/8/14: Pitched regional administrator's op-ed about waters of the U.S. proposal. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

Columbus Telegram (Neb.) – Tyler Ellyson -10/8/14: Pitched regional administrator's op-ed about waters of the U.S. proposal. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

Topeka Capital Journal – Tim Carpenter – 10/8/14: Questions about extending the Flint Hills burning season. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

Riverfront Times, St. Louis – Chad Garrison – 10/8/14: Question about Green Power Partnership designation for the city of Webster Groves, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

Cedar Rapids Gazette – Erin Jordan – 10/9/14: Questions about the waters of the U.S. proposal were referred to HQ. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

Environmental Stories:

Dubuque Telegraph-Herald - Brooks: Clean water serves ag, business and community health - 10/9/14 - When Congress passed the Clean Water Act in 1972, it didn't just defend the mighty Mississippi or Missouri rivers from pollution. It also protected our smaller streams and wetlands that flow into rivers like the Des Moines, Cedar and Raccoon in Iowa. Streams and wetlands are crucial for fishing, hunting, tourism, agriculture, recreation, energy and businesses.

http://www.thonline.com/news/opinion/article_7b7db453-119a-54ab-8a87-630e57515cb4.html

Natural Resources Defense Council - Federal Court Tosses Nebraska's "Jump-the-Gun" Lawsuit Against EPA Power Plant Standards - 10/9/14 - The federal district court in Lincoln, Nebraska, yesterday threw out a lawsuit by that state's attorney general attacking the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed standards for carbon pollution from new electric power plants.

http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/ddoniger/federal_court_tosses_nebraskas.html

Courthouse News Service - Nebraska AG Fails in Fight Against Coal Plant Regs - 10/9/14 - Nebraska "jumped the gun" in suing the Environmental Protection Agency over greenhouse gas emission limits for new power plants, as the EPA regulations are not yet in place, a federal judge said in dismissing the state's complaint.

<http://www.courthousenews.com/2014/10/08/72262.htm>

Iowa Farmer Today - Farmers criticize Ernst on climate change, RFS - 10/9/14 - A super PAC backing Democratic U.S. Senate candidate Bruce Braley enlisted a pair of central Iowa farmers to criticize his Republican opponent, Joni Ernst, for a lack of leadership on renewable fuels and climate change — issues they said hit home with Iowa ag producers.

http://www.iowafarmertoday.com/news/crop/farmers-criticize-ernst-on-climate-change-rfs/article_e998acd0-4f20-11e4-84eb-03c85d7526f0.html

Leader and Times - Hugoton's biorefinery to host grand opening - 10/9/14 - An ethanol plant capable of producing 25 million gallons per year will have its grand opening next week in Hugoton. On the flat plains of Kansas, a stack of gleaming steel towers and pipes stretches 16 stories into the sky.

http://www.leaderandtimes.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=18463:hugotons-biorefinery-to-host-grand-opening&catid=12:local-news&Itemid=40

Breaking Energy - Heat Rate Improvements Can Be Challenging for Coal-Fired Plants Under Clean Power Plan - 10/9/14 - In proposing the wide-reaching Clean Power Plan, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has laid out four key "building blocks" that states can use to develop their implementation plans.

<http://breakingenergy.com/2014/10/09/heat-rate-improvements-can-be-challenging-for-coal-fired-plants-under-clean-power-plan/>

Spencer Daily Reporter - EPA, Shine Bros. Corp. settle on stormwater violations - 10/8/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 has reached an administrative settlement with Spencer's Shine Bros. Corp. to resolve industrial stormwater violations under the Clean Water Act.

<http://www.spencerdailyreporter.com/story/2126651.html>

Fox News - Pulling 'an IRS'? EPA reportedly loses text messages now sought in request - 10/9/14 - The EPA is being accused of pulling "an IRS" for reportedly planning to inform the National Archives it has lost text messages being sought in an open-records request.

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2014/10/08/pulling-irs-epa-reportedly-to-admit-it-lost-thousands-text-messages/>

Washington Examiner - EPA sends smog rule to White House - 10/8/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency sent a proposed rule to limit smog to the White House on Wednesday, a move that will set off fresh battles in what has been an intense, five-year fight over the regulation.

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/epa-sends-smog-rule-to-white-house/article/2554576>

The Hill - EPA sends ozone regulation for White House review - 10/9/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sent potential changes to the standard for ground-level ozone to the White House Office of Management and Budget on Wednesday.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/220198-epa-sends-ozone-regulation-for-white-house-review>

CBS-TV Ch. 4 - EPA Chief In Town To Talk Climate Change, Pollution - 10/9/14 - EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy is the keynote speaker Thursday morning at an American Bar Association conference on environmental issues. She will discuss the agency's role in protecting public health and the environment.

<http://miami.cbslocal.com/2014/10/09/epa-chief-in-town-to-talk-climate-change-pollution/>

Tribune-Review (Pittsburgh) - States better fracking regulators than EPA - 10/9/14 - A new report from the Government Accountability Office (GAO) confirms what many small-government environmentalists have been saying for years: States are more effective at regulating the disposal of wastewater from hydraulic fracturing operations than is the Environmental Protection Agency.

<http://triblive.com/opinion/featuredcommentary/6904988-74/epa-gao-injection#ixzz3FfrMBIKZ>

Dailier Caller - Report: Amount Of Coal Power To Shut Down From EPA Rules Doubles Since 2011 - 10/9/14 - The amount of coal-fired power capacity slated to shut down due to federal environmental regulations has more than doubled since 2011, according to a report from the free-market Institute for Energy Research.

<http://dailycaller.com/2014/10/09/report-amount-of-coal-power-to-shut-down-from-epa-rules-doubles-since-2011/>

Bloomberg BNA - D.C. Circuit Asked to Reconsider Decision Upholding EPA Sulfur, Nitrogen Standards - 10/9/14 - Three environmental groups have asked a federal appeals court to reconsider a lawsuit challenging the Environmental Protection Agency's secondary national ambient air quality standards for sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide because the agency no longer plans to conduct a study to address scientific uncertainties

<http://www.bna.com/dc-circuit-asked-n17179895817/>

Human Events - EXPERT: PROPOSED EPA RULE REPRESENTS REGULATORY OVERREACH - 10/9/14 - To its many foes, a rule proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that would redefine the scope of waters protected under the Clean Water Act is a real son of a ditch.

<http://humanevents.com/2014/10/09/expert-proposed-epa-rule-represents-regulatory-overreach/>

Sioux Falls Argus Leader - Jackley joins other states in challenging EPA - 10/9/14 - Supreme Court decisions in the 21st Century have narrowed the scope of Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers regulatory authority over wetlands under the 1972 Clean Water Act.

<http://www.argusleader.com/story/news/2014/10/09/jackley-joins-states-challenging-epa/16974957/>

RT - California aquifers contaminated with billions of gallons of fracking wastewater - 10/9/14 - Industry illegally injected about 3 billion gallons of fracking wastewater into central California drinking-water and farm-irrigation aquifers, the state found after the US Environmental Protection Agency ordered a review of possible contamination.

<http://rt.com/usa/194620-california-aquifers-fracking-contamination/>

The Hill - Senate Dems: Low ethanol mandate would hurt climate - 10/9/14 - Sens. Barbara Boxer (Calif.) and Ed Markey (Mass.) said that unlike some of the administration's other environmental policies, last year's proposed Renewable Fuel Standard volumes would harm the climate. Boxer is chairwoman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/220275-senate-dems-low-ethanol-mandate-would-hurt-climate>

ThinkProgress - 'Environmental Racism' And The Fight For Green Space In The South Bronx - 10/9/14 - An undeveloped area couched between a waste transfer station and a FedEx shipping facility with the Robert F. Kennedy Bridge passing overhead is just about as wild of a place as exists in New York City. It's the site Mychal Johnson, an environmental activist in the South Bronx, wants to turn into a waterfront park.

<http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2014/10/09/3574768/battle-for-new-york-green-space/>

The Record-Herald News (Bergen, N.J.) - 'Quiet genocide' continues at Ringwood Superfund site - 10/9/14 - It is the sovereign belief of the Ramapough Lenape Nation that anything short of a full remediation of the Ford Superfund site, which includes Peter's Mine Pit, Cannon Mine Pit, O'Connor Disposal Area and groundwater contamination, will be considered by our nation an act of aggression, a violation of our civil rights, and the continuation of a quiet genocide.

<http://www.northjersey.com/news/environment/quiet-genocide-continues-at-ringwood-superfund-site-1.1105029>

The Moral Liberal - Another EPA and Army Corps Power Grab - 10/9/14 - Agricultural activities will likely be far more costly and difficult, at least if the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) get their way.

<http://www.themoralliberal.com/2014/10/08/another-epa-army-corps-power-grab/>

Quad City Times – EPA rule does not target ditches – 10/9/14 – Karl Brooks op-ed - When Congress passed the Clean Water Act in 1972, it didn't just defend the mighty Mississippi or Missouri rivers from pollution. It also protected our smaller streams and wetlands that flow into rivers like the Des Moines, Cedar, and Raccoon in Iowa. Streams and wetlands are crucial for fishing, hunting, tourism, agriculture, recreation, energy, and businesses. http://qctimes.com/news/opinion/editorial/epa-rule-does-not-target-ditches/article_b78d2f2c-1f97-578f-a802-17048c44a46d.html

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

10/9/14 – Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce Energy & Environmental Roundtable and Reception, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Dave Bryan, 7433

10/10/14 – Nebraska State Bar Association, La Vista, Neb. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

10/21-22/14 – EPA Lean Summit, Washington, D.C. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

10/30/14 – COOP Exercise, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Chris Taylor, 7736

11/12/14 – Native American Heritage Event Discussion on “Climate Change and Adaptation in Indian Country, Regional Office. Contact: Alex Owutaka, 7584

11/18/14 – Region 7 Small Business Environmental Assistance Providers, Regional Office. Contact: Gary Bertram, 7533

DRA:

10/30/14 – COOP Exercise, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Chris Taylor, 7736

11/12/14 – Native American Heritage Event Discussion on “Climate Change and Adaptation in Indian Country, Regional Office. Contact: Alex Owutaka, 7584

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

None

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

10/19-22/14 – Senior Enforcement Managers Meeting, Washington, D.C., Contact: D. Singletary, x7373

ENSV

None

PLMG

None

RA/OPA

10/14/14 – Attend West Lake Landfill CAG meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

SUPR

10/22/14 – Public Availability Session to discuss remedial action and the Five Year Review for the Parkview Well Site, Grand Island, Neb. Contact: Brad Vann, 7611

WWPD

10/8-9/14 – 2014 National CAFO Roundtable, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

10/15-16/14 – Big River Task Force Meeting with Other State and Federal Agencies, Farmington, Mo. Contact: Jeannette Schafer, 7297

10/20-21/14 – Hypoxia Task Force Meeting, Alton, Ill. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

10/20-25/14 – EPA Grants Reporting and Tracking System Training, Seattle, Wash. Contact: Theresa Brink, 7337

10/22/14 – St. Louis Regional Chamber and Metro Water Infrastructure Partnership water infrastructure seminar, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

10/22/14 – Operation Breakthrough-St. Vincent's Head Start outreach event, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Crystal McIntyre, 7261

10/29-30/14 – National EPA Wet Weather Meeting, Chicago, Ill. Contacts: Jodi Bruno, 7810, Cynthia Sans, 7492

11/4-7/14 – National EPA Drinking Water Enforcement Meeting, Washington, DC. Contact: Scott Marquess, 7131

11/3-6/14 – EPA Tribal 106 Coordinators Meeting, Washington, DC. Contact: Heather Duncan, 7640

11/11-12/14 – Council of Infrastructure Finance Authorities National SRF Workshop, Portland, Ore. Contacts: Glenn Curtis, 7726, Sabre Germano, 7026

11/12-14/14 – EPA Assessment TMDL Tracking and Implementation System vision measures training, Washington, DC. Contacts: Tabatha Adkins, 7128, Debby White, 7886